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Urban District Council of Chesham

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1946

T. P. EVANS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Urban District Council of Chesham

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Public Health Dept.,
Council Offices,
Chesham,

Bucks.

June, 1947.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Chesham Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1946.

This is the first full year after the end of the war and there are many achievements to record. In the main these achievements were planned during the later years of the war.

They include the erection, completion and occupation of 35 prefabricated dwellings by August, 1946—the appointment of a whole-time Housing Manager; the purchase of premises for use as a Council Chamber and Offices, which were occupied in October, 1946, and finally, the approval by the Ministry of Health of the Council's proposal to adopt incineration as the method of refuse disposal.

During this year, also, the proportionate financial contributions of the interested parties concerned in the provision of a suitably-sized piped water supply to the residents of the Vale, has been finally and satisfactorily settled. The Authorities concerned are the Chesham Urban Council, the adjoining Rural Council, and the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company. A piped water supply will be available to the inhabitants of the Vale as soon as practicable.

The passage of the Water Act, 1945, will in rural areas mean a large increase in the number of premises which will be supplied with water for domestic purposes by means of a

piped water supply. In Chesham the number of shallow wells in use for the provision of domestic water supply is small, and they are kept under constant scrutiny to ensure that the water is suitable for that purpose.

In conclusion I would like to thank the officers of the Council for their valuable help, particularly Mr. Brogan who left the Council's employment in February, and also his successor, Mr. Saturley, who assumed the duties of Sanitary Inspector on the 8th March, 1946, for their unfailing assistance: and finally, Sir, may I thank you, Mr. Chairman, and the Councillors for your kindly co-operation throughout the year.

Yours truly,

T. P. EVANS

Medical Officer of Health.

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G Factories Act, 1937**STAFF****Medical Officer of Health**

T. P. Evans, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector

G. E. Brogan, A.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A. (Resigned February).

L. D. Saturley, Cert.S.I.B., M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A. (appointed March, 1946).

Assistant Rodent Officer

J. G. Dobson

A General and Vital Statistics*1. Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area*

Population	...	...	...	...	...	11,030
Area (Acres) of District	...	...	...	...	...	3,489
Number of Inhabitable Houses (per Rate Book)						3,330
Rateable Value of Area	...	...	...	...	...	£67,767
Sum represented by 1d. Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£260

The Urban District of Chesham was extended by the Bucks Review Order of 1934 from an acreage of 1,357 to the present acreage of 3,489. The rateable value on 1st April, 1929, was £46,915, on the 1st April, 1934, it was £56,528, whilst on April 1st, 1946, it was £67,621 ; that is, there has been something approaching a 38 per cent increase in rateable value since 1929.

The population of Chesham in 1921 was 8,534 ; in 1931, 8,809 ; and the Registrar General's estimate for 1946 was 11,030.

The product of a 1d. rate has increased from £216 for the financial year 1934-5 to an estimated figure of £260 for the financial year, 1947-8.

2. Births

Birth Rate per 1,000 population ...	...	...	19.9
Birth Rate England and Wales ...	...	...	19.1

(a) Live Births :	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ...	117	97	214
Illegitimate ...	3	3	6
(b) Still Births :	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ...	—	2	2
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—
Still Rate per 1,000 total births	—	9.1	

(c) Deaths from puerperal causes	...	...	Nil
(d) Deaths of Infants under one year of age	...	...	5

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ...	4	1	5
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—

Deaths of Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	23.4
--	------

Infant Mortality : All Infants per 1,000 live births	22.7
England and Wales per 1,000 related births ...	43.0

3. Deaths

Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	11.7
Death Rate, England and Wales	...	...	11.5

Diseases	Males	Females	Total
1. Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	9	16	25
2. Cancer	13	10	23
3. Heart Diseases	9	13	22
4. Other Circulatory Diseases ...	2	5	7
5. Pneumonia	5	2	7
6. Nephritis	3	4	7
7. Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	4	2	6
8. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	4	—	4
9. Other Digestive Diseases ...	1	3	4
10. Bronchitis	1	2	3
11. Other Respiratory Diseases ...	2	—	2
12. Diabetes	1	1	2
13. Influenza	1	—	1
14. Diarrhoea under 2 years ...	1	—	1
15. Premature Birth ...	1	—	1
16. Suicide	—	1	1
17. Other Violent Causes ...	2	1	3
18. All Other Causes ...	8	2	10
	—	—	—
	67	62	129
	—	—	—

B General Provisions of Health Services in the Area

1. Laboratory Facilities

Laboratory facilities are provided by the Emergency Public Health Services, Park Place, Oxford.

2. Ambulance Service

It is once again a pleasing duty to place on record the splendid services performed by the Chesham St. John Ambulance car. The transport activities of this ambulance are well illustrated by the following figures which are published by courtesy of the Divisional Superintendent, Mr. E. H. Coles, 26, Cameron Road, Chesham.

		1943	1944	1945	1946
(a) Removals to Hospital	... 882	1,139	1,046	955	
(b) Accidents attended...	... 70	74	61	72	
(c) Military Service cases	... 39	44	25	17	
(d) Total ... ...	... 991	1,527	1,132	1,044
(e) Mileage	17,194	20,783	18,382	19,815	

It is a very pleasant duty once again to thank all the officers and personnel of the Brigade who gave their valuable services to the town in such an unobtrusive and unheralded manner.

3. *Nursing in the Home*

Since 1944 this service has been provided by Sister Dentus, S.R.N., C.M.B., and Sister Parry, S.R.N., C.M.B., whose address is 305, Berkhamsted Road, Chesham.

4. *Clinics and Hospitals*

There has been no major change in the dual services provided at the Germain Street Clinic, viz., a Minor Ailments Clinic and a Specialised Service Clinic.

In addition to the Chesham Cottage Hospital, Chesham also has available the services of the Amersham Emergency Services Hospital.

The Venereal Diseases Scheme of the Bucks County Council have established clinics at King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor and High Wycombe.

Statutory Rules and Orders, No. 2518

(Determination of Regional Hospital Areas)

During the closing weeks of 1946 and the early part of 1947, some disquiet was felt locally when the above Order was published, under which Chesham is placed within the Oxford Region, and not in the London North Western Hospital Region, as originally suggested.

After consultation with neighbouring Local Authorities and members of the medical profession, a joint deputation met the Minister of Health at Whitehall on Tuesday, 28th January, 1947. The Minister assured the deputation that the boundaries under the Order were not rigid, and would be subject to such modifications as might appear desirable after experience had been gained of the operation of the Scheme.

C Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases

1. *Incidence of Infectious Disease*

There were 40 cases of Infectious Diseases notified. These

include 30 cases of Scarlet Fever, of which 20 cases were notified during the last three months of the year. Whooping Cough notifications were 5, two cases of Erysipelas and one each of Measles, Cerebro-spinal Meningitis and Puerperal Pyrexia. There were also six primary notifications of Tuberculosis.

2. *Diphtheria Immunisation*

The facilities at the County Council Clinic in Germain Street, together with the invaluable assistance of the County Health Visitors, Nurses Lyal and Tanton, have continued to be at our disposal.

As in previous years a house-to-house survey was undertaken of those homes where it was known that there were children in the vulnerable 0-5 group who had not been immunised.

It is of interest to note that for the second year in succession there has been no case of diphtheria notified in the District. This can without doubt be attributed in a measure to the excellent public response to the Council's campaign for diphtheria immunisation.

In this connection it may be well to remind the Council that this campaign has been in progress since 1941. During the past year 182 children between the ages of one to five years, and 32 children between the ages of five to fifteen have been immunised against Diphtheria, making a total percentage of 93 per cent of all children in the 0-5 age group and 95 per cent of all school children in the 5-15 age group who have received prophylactic treatment against diphtheria.

Set out below is an analysis of immunisation figures since the introduction of the campaign in 1941.

Immunisation in Relation to Child Population

Number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1946:

Age at 31/12/46 i.e. Born in year ..	under 1 1946	1 1945	2 1944	3 1943	4 1942	5 to 9 1937-41	10 to 14 1932-36	Total under 15
Number immunised ...	—	106	115	92	129	406	685	1,533
Estimated Mid-year population 1946 ...		820				1,450		

Notifiable Diseases

Disease.	Cases Notified.	Hospital.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	30	23	Nil
Diphtheria	—	—	Nil
Measles	1	—	Nil
Erysipelas	2	—	Nil
Whooping Cough ...	5	—	Nil
Dysentery	—	—	Nil
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	1	1	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	1	Nil

Tuberculosis

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1-5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-25	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
25-35	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	2	3	—	1	—	—	—	—

D Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

1. Water Supply

Briefly the Undertakings within the Chesham Urban District are as follows :

(a) *Chesham Urban District Council* supply a part of the district which can conveniently be described as the area of the Urban District prior to the extension of boundaries to their present position. The area of supply is 1,357 acres being approximately 40 per cent of the Urban Area (3,489 acres), but it contains about 76 per cent of the total number of dwelling-houses.

(b) *Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Co.* serves what we might call the North-West area which extends roughly from Chartridge Lane to the west side of Vale Road in the northern part of the district. Within this district in Pednor Road there are approximately ten dwelling-houses which have individual boreholes and hand-pumps.

These boreholes are subject to regular sampling, and the water is reported to be of high bacterial and chemical purity.

With regard to the water supply to the Vale, which has been of continuous concern to the Council for the past four years, I am happy to report that during the year under review, further meetings have been held with the responsible Water Undertakings and the adjoining Local Authorities, and all questions of apportionments of costs and other legal points settled. Unfortunately, the Water Undertakings encountered difficulties with regard to easements for the passage of the piped supply over certain lands. These difficulties have now been overcome and work should commence soon.

(c) *The Great Berkhamstead Water Co.* serves the North-East area which comprises the fringe formed by the difference in the two boundaries, the old and the new, and which extends roughly from the east side of Vale Road, Nashleigh Hill, to Lye Green Road.

(d) *Amersham and Beaconsfield Water Co.* supplies the southern area, mainly Bois Moor Road, which comprises a very small part of the district.

Generally speaking I am satisfied with the purity of the water from all the undertakings within the Urban District of Chesham both in regard to quality and quantity.

Bacteriological examination of the water supply and chemical analyses are frequently made and copies of these are to be found in Appendix I. The supplies receive no treatment other than chlorination and the waters are not liable to have plumbo-solvent action.

The number of dwelling-houses having no internal water supply is small, being approximately two per cent of the total number of dwellings and many of these would have been dealt with under the Housing Acts but for the commencement of hostilities.

2. *Sewerage and Sewage Disposal*

Only the outlying areas of the district remain unsewered, in areas where due to the contours of the land, the necessary fall to the sewage farm would be difficult to obtain. The Council's cesspool emptying machine emptied 168 cesspools during 1946, 81 of these being in the Urban District, whilst the remainder were in adjoining areas.

The sewerage is on the separate system, the soil water sewer discharging at the Council's Sewage Disposal Plant in Latimer Road, Chesham.

3. *Refuse Disposal*

Further progress has been made to implement the Council's decision to adopt incineration as the method of disposal of house refuse. In the autumn of 1946, an enquiry was held locally by the Ministry of Health, and the necessary loan sanction was given.

The tip at Asheridge Bottom has now been completed and refuse is at present being tipped at the Council's Sewage Farm, Latimer Road. Certain selected refuse is being utilised for the construction of approach roads to the new incinerator.

Salvage Return for the Year 1945

		Tons	cwts.	lbs.	f	s.	d.
Waste Paper	...	...	52	2	77	344	10 10
Scrap Metals	...	...	3	15	98	9	0 8
Textiles	...	...	1	3	22	8	12 2
Bottles and Jars	...	...	9	—	55	43	0 10
Bones	...	...	—	7	59	2	0 6
<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	...	66	9	87	407	5	0

4. Sanitary Inspection.

Summary of Sanitary Inspector's visits.

Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	465
Dwellinghouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	242
Food Preparing Places	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Disinfections	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Knackers Yards	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Water Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Disinfestations	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Refuse Tip	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	...	177
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	249

5. Rodent Control.

Infestation Order, May, 1943.

Owing to the continued critical condition of the food situation, rodent control work must continue to rank high in our efforts to conserve our available supplies.

In order to stimulate these efforts, the Ministry of Food introduced a special scheme of financial assistance to local authorities thereby enabling the treatment of domestic premises to be carried out free of charge to the occupier—the Ministry bearing 60 per cent. of the cost, the remaining 40 per cent. being borne by the Local Authority. The application of such a scheme was subject to the Local Authority putting into operation an approved comprehensive scheme of Rodent Control.

Chesham Urban District Council decided to take advantage of this financial aid to householders, and the scheme of Rodent Control submitted by this Council was one of the first in this Region to be approved by the Ministry of Food. Unfortunately, the scheme of free treatment only operated for the

fiscal year ended 31st March, 1947, so that the cost of treatment must again be borne by the occupiers of premises, who are, in fact, statutorily responsible for this work. However, it is felt that, with the continued co-operation of individual occupiers, Chesham will maintain its good record in this field.

During the past 12 months the Rodent Officer has surveyed and treated 3,146 premises, with an estimated kill of 1,010 rats. In addition, the Council's sewers have received two treatments, with satisfactory results.

E. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

1. Milk.

The number of retailers in this district is five. Dairy and cowshed premises continue to be well maintained.

One of the larger retailers in the district is at present installing pasteurising equipment. Upon the completion of this scheme, the bulk of the milk supplied in this district will be of Designated or Pasteurised standard. This is in accordance with the White Paper on "Measures to Improve the Quality of the Nation's Milk Supply."

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER.

The following licences were granted during 1946 :—

Tuberculin Tested Milk

(a) Establishment at which Milk is bottled ...	...	1
(b) Licence to sell from Bottling Establishment	...	1
(c) Supplementary licences to sell in the district	...	1

Pasteurised Milk

(a) Supplementary licences to sell in the district	...	2
	Total	5

2. Meat Inspection.

(a) Slaughterhouses.

The centralisation of the slaughter of cattle and sheep continues to be carried out at the Co-operative Slaughterhouse and gives entire satisfaction.

The Sanitary Inspector is responsible for all food inspection, and during the year made 465 visits for this purpose.

Meat Inspection in Slaughterhouse.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ...	1171	271	1250	3736	39
Number inspected ...	1171	271	1250	3736	39
All diseases except T.B. Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned ...	176	42	3	14	1
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	9.9%	15.5%	.24%	.36%	2.6%
Tuberculosis only :— Whole carcases condemned	9	4	3	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned ...	97	56	—	—	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with T.B.	9.0%	22.1%	.24%	—	5.2%

Tuberculosis in Calves.

During the year Veterinary Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries were notified of three calves examined in the Slaughterhouse and found to be affected with tuberculosis, in an effort to trace affected dams.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Number of Slaughtermen on Register at 31st December, 1945	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Applications for Licences considered during 1946	...						—
Applications for Renewal of Licences	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Number of Slaughtermen on Register at 31st December, 1946	...	...	...	...	...	...	8

(b) Condemned Foodstuffs.

Beef	...	...	...	...	...	13,541	lbs.
Mutton	...	...	...	...	...	67	„
Pork	...	...	...	...	...	78	„
Breakfast Sausage	...	...	...	...	...	74	„
Liver Sausage	...	...	...	...	...	32	„
Wet Fish	...	...	...	...	...	70	„
Galantine	...	...	...	...	...	18	„
Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	8	„
Potatoes	...	...	...	...	...	56	„
Bread	...	...	...	...	...	81	qtns.
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	20	cartons.
Eggs in Shell	...	...	...	...	...		753

Tinned Goods.

Corned Beef	...	...	...	...	...	41	tins
Meat	...	...	...	...	...	162	„
Fish	80	„
Sausage	2	„
Jam	7	„
Beans	12	„
Peas	91	„
Milk	254	„
Mixed Vegetables	15	„
Fruit	18	„

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ERRATUM

Page 17, line 2, should read
"until the general housing
situation has improved"

F Housing.

1. Action under the Housing Act, 1936, is still in abeyance until the general housing situation has been approved. Whilst there can be little disagreement over the present policy of concentrating all the resources of the building industry on the construction of new houses, some concern is felt over the condition of many of the older dwellings which, after seven years of labour and material shortage, are reaching a state of disrepair from which recovery will be a difficult and costly process.

It would be premature at this stage to advocate any serious diversion of materials and labour from the main programme of providing new houses, but it is hoped that some indication will soon be given by the Central Authority of the lines upon which slum clearance and reconditioning will develop in the post-war period.

During 1946, action under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, was taken in connection with one dwelling, an undertaking being accepted by the Council from the owner not to again re-let the premises for human habitation.

2. Post War Housing Programme.

During the year under review, the erection and occupation of 35 prefabricated temporary bungalows has been completed.

The Council's Permanent Housing Programme involved the development of two virgin sites—one in Missenden Road and the other close to Bellingdon Road.

Possession of the Bellingdon Road site was obtained in the autumn of 1945 and the construction of roads and sewers on the site proceeded throughout the winter. This work involving the construction of about half a mile of roads with necessary sewers was carried out by German Prisoner-of-War unskilled labour and was completed in the late spring of 1946.

The similar site preparation and works on the Missenden Road site involving the laying of one-third of a mile of concrete roads was commenced in the spring of 1946. Despite bad weather through almost the whole of the duration of the work, this work was completed in the late autumn.

In the meantime work was commenced on 26 houses at the Bellingdon Road site. Despite the heavy loss of working time due to bad weather for building operations (in December, 1946, alone, 3,000 man hours out of a possible total of 7,000 were lost for this reason), four permanent houses were roofed in and four were at eaves level by the end of the year.

G Factories Act, 1937.

In the past year, 30 visits have been made to factories in the district in accordance with the local authority's responsibilities under the above Act. In five cases, the premises failed to comply with the provisions of the Act.

In these instances, appropriate action has been taken by the Council, and the necessary modifications put in hand.

The following is a classified list of Factories and Factories (No Mechanical Power) on the Register on 31st December, 1946.

Factories

Woodware and Joinery	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Light Engineering	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Boot Manufacturers and Repairs							7
Motor Engineers, Garages, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Brushware	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Printers	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Dentists	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Toilet Sundries	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Toys	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Handbags	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Clothing Manufacturers							1
Coach Builders	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pencil Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tailors	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
							—

Factories (No Mechanical Power)

Joinery, Builders, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Scrap Sorting	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Packing	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Stone Mason	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Undertakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tailors	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Opticians	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Garage	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Coach Building	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cycle Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
							—
							18
							—

Appendix I.

The Counties Public Health Laboratories,
66, Victoria Street,
London, S.W.1.

Ref. : A/YM/32.

ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF WATER received on 17th December, 1946
from CHESHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
Labelled : Tap at 36, Lansdowne Road, Chesham, direct from Main, Chesham
Water Company's Main. Date : 16th December, 1946, 10.50 a.m.

Taken by L. D. Saturley. Witness : F. Paxton. Signed : L. D. Saturley.

Chemical Results in Parts per 100,000.

Appearance.....	Clear and bright
Colour	Normal
Odour	Nil
Reaction pH	Neutral : 7.1
Free Carbonic Acid	2.7
Electric Conductivity at 20° C.	440
Total Solids, dried at 180° C.	29.5
Chlorine in Chlorides	0.9
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	23.0
Hardness : Total 26.0	Carbonate (Temporary) 23.0 Non-carbonate (Permanent) 3.0
Nitrogen in Nitrates	0.34
Nitrogen in Nitrites	Less than 0.001
Free Ammonia	0.000
Ammoniacal Nitrogen.....	—
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0000
Albumidoid Nitrogen	—
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27° C.	0.000
Metals : Iron	Less than 0.003
Other metals	absent
Free chlorine reaction	absent

Bacteriological Results.

Number of Colonies developing on Agar per cc. or ml. in :

1 day at 37° C. : 0	2 days at 37° C. : 0.	3 days at 20° C. : 6.
Presumptive Coliform Reaction .....	.....	Absent from 100 c.c.
Bact. coli .....	.....	Absent from 100 c.c.
Cl. welchii Reaction.....	.....	Absent from 100 c.c.

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from an insignificant trace of iron. The water is hard in character, but not to an excessive degree and it is free from any excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. Its organic quality and bacterial purity are of the highest standard.

The water is considered pure and wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purpose.

28th December, 1946.

(Signed) ROY C. HOATHER.

Appendix II.

The Counties Public Health Laboratories.

66, Victoria Street,
London, S.W.1.

Ref. : A/YM/34.

ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF WATER received on 17th December, 1946
from CHESHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.....
Labelled : Tap on Main at 48, Bois Moor Road, Chesham. Water Supply from
Amersham and Beaconsfield Water Company. Date : 16th December,
1946. 10.15 a.m.

Taken by L. D. Saturley. Witness : F. Paxton. Signed : L. D. Saturley,
Sanitary Inspector.

Chemical Results in Parts per 100,000.

Appearance	Clear and bright
Colour	Normal
Odour	Nil
Reaction pH	Neutral : 7.2
Free Carbonic Acid	2.2
Electric Conductivity at 20° C.	490
Total Solids, dried at 180° C.	33.0
Chlorine in Chlorides	1.2
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	24.5
Hardness : Total 28.0.....	Carbonate (Temporary) 24.5 Non-carbonate (Permanent)..... 3.5
Nitrogen in Nitrates	0.30
Nitrogen in Nitrites	Less than 0.001
Free Ammonia	0.0000
Ammoniacal Nitrogen.....	0.0000
Albuminoid Ammonia.....	0.0000
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.000
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27° C.	0.003
Metals : Iron	absent
Other metals	absent
Free chlorine reaction	absent

Bacteriological Results.

Number of Colonies developing on Aga per cc. or ml. in			
	1 day at 37° C.	2 days at 37° C.	3 days at 20° C.
0	0	0	0

Presumptive Coliform Reaction	Absent from 100 c.c.
Bact. coli	Absent from 100 c.c.
Cl. welchii Reaction	Absent from 100 c.c.

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from an insignificant trace of iron. The water is hard in character but not to an excessive degree and it is free from any excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. It conforms to the highest standard of organic quality and bacterial purity.

The water is considered pure and wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purpose.

(Signed) ROY C. HOATHER.

Appendix III

The Counties Public Health Laboratories,

66, Victoria Street,

London, S.W.1.

Ref. A/YM/33.

ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF WATER received on 17th December, 1946, from CHESHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
 Labelled : New House, Berkeley Avenue, Chesham. Taken from Tap direct from main.—Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Co. Date: 16th December, 1946. 10 a.m. Taken by L. D. Saturley. Witness : F. Paxton. Signed : L. D. Saturley.

Chemical Results in Parts per 100,000.

Appearance	.....	Clear and bright
Colour	.....	Normal
Odour	.....	Nil
Reaction pH	.....	Neutral 7.1
Free Carbonic Acid	.....	2.8
Electric Conductivity at 20°C	.....	480
Total Solids, dried at 180°C	.....	32.0
Chlorine in Chlorides	.....	1.1
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	.....	24.5
Hardness : Total 28.0. Carbonate (Temporary)	.....	24.5).
	Non-carbonate (Permanent)	..... 3.5
Nitrogen in Nitrates	.....	0.36
Nitrogen in Nitrites	.....	Less than 0.001
Free Ammonia	.....	0.0004
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	.....	—
Albuminoid Ammonia	.....	0.0000
Albuminoid Nitrogen	.....	—
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 26°C	.....	0.000
Metals : Iron	.....	0.003
Other metals	.....	absent
Free chlorine reaction	.....	absent

Bacteriological Results

Number of Colonies developing an Agar per cc. or ml.in.

	1 day at 37°C.	2 days at 37°C.	3 days at 20°C.
	0	0	3

Presumptive Coliform Reaction	.....	Absent from 100 c.c.
Bact. Coli	.....	Absent from 100 c.c
Cl. welchii Reaction	.....	Absent from 100 c.c.

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from an insignificant trace of iron. The water is hard in character but not to an excessive degree and it is free from any excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. Its organic quality and bacterial purity are of the highest standard.

The water is considered pure and wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

(Signed) ROY C. HOATHER.

28th December, 1946.

Page & Thomes Ltd., Chesham.
